The Vice-Chancellor’s Awards for Learning and Teaching were this year awarded to eight individuals or teams for their contributions to the University’s commitment to excellence in learning and teaching. Each recipient receives $10,000.

Congratulations to Dr Ruth Barcan, Dr Mark McEntee and Dr Olaf Werder for their Awards for Outstanding Teaching.

- Dr Ruth Barcan - Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, was recognised as an inspiring teacher who connects high theory and common culture. She was commended for her coherent and innovative philosophy of teaching and the strength of her scholarly activities, including her contribution to a national debate on curriculum.

- Dr Mark McEntee – Faculty of Health Sciences, uses technology widely and thoughtfully as well as a variety of other techniques including debates. His strong contribution to, and leadership in, the Faculty of Health Sciences is evident in his redesign of units of study and contribution to the standardisation of honours courses. Read a recent interview with Mark in Staff News here.

- Dr Olaf Werder – Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, was congratulated for his student-centred approach and support of students as individuals, including attention to cultural inclusion. His strong interdisciplinary focus and scholarly approach and the range of his scholarly activities were also commended.

Dr Danny Lui and Dr Emma Power were awarded Early Career awards for Outstanding Teaching and congratulated on their achievements and contribution to the University as Early Career academics.

- Dr Danny Lui– Faculty of Science, has conducted large-scale reform of first year biology with innovation and the development of the use of technology for large classes. Student feedback and peer observation provide convincing evidence of his use of engagement and motivation to encourage student learning.

- Dr Emma Power - Faculty of Health Sciences, was commended for her redesigned case-based curriculum, the stakeholder consultation on which this is based and the evidence of the resulting improvement in student learning, with its basis in a theoretical framework.

One award was made for Excellence in Research Higher Degree Supervision.

- Professor Leanne Togher - Faculty of Health Sciences, has a well-organised effective and structured approach to the supervision. Her philosophy of creating a collaborative, supportive
framework provides a wide range of opportunities for her research students.

**Two teams gained awards for their Support of the Student Experience.**

- *The Student Transition and Retention (STAR) team* (Ms Cassandra Khamis, Ms Ana Munro, Dr Tim Wilkinson and A/Prof Adam Bridgeman) is responsible for an initiative which combines central and faculty expertise in Track and Connect, a program which has well developed goals and procedures for supporting first year students in transition and retention. The Faculties of Science and Engineering & IT have joined the Student Transition and Retention Team of Student Support Services to provide a coordinated systematic approach.
- *Belong @FHS: Peer Mentoring Across the Faculty of Health Sciences* (Dr Sarah Lewis, Dr Melanie Nguyen, Dr Debra Shirley and A/Prof Corrine Caillaud) is an initiative which has become a fundamentally important program to enhance the student experience in the faculty. The program provides support for individual students but also contributes to faculty cohesion with a high level of student involvement and a concern for equity and diversity.

Congratulations to all recipients of this year’s Vice-Chancellor’s Awards.